



# MARINA'S MESSAGE

NEWS YOU CAN USE NOVEMBER 2011

Dear Friends,

We have been working hard this past month towards adopting a fiscally and socially responsible, 2012 County Budget. It is important to find a balance between proposed cuts and increased revenue options. We also received great news that Milwaukee County has been awarded over \$12 million in federal funds for the express bus routes. I hope you will pay special attention to the new requirements for voting in the February Primary Election. Lastly, there are links to WisDOT's feasibility study regarding the Hoan Bridge Bike Path and information on an upcoming public meeting on the matter.

*Marina D.*

## Milwaukee County Board Committees

Parks, Energy, & Environment

Intergovernmental Relations

Transportation, Public Works & Transit

Chair, County Board Information Technology

Milwaukee County Commission on Aging

Lakefront Development Advisory Commission

Milwaukee County Research Park Board

## Community Memberships

Salvation Army Advisory Board

South Side Business Club

Sierra Club

Assn. of Marquette University Women

Bay View Neighborhood Association

American Council of Young Political Leaders

Bay View Historical Society

South Shore Park Watch

Bay View Lions Club

Inter-Organizational Council of Bay View

Bay View High School Alumni Association

9 to 5, Nat'l Association of Working Women

South Side Scholarship Foundation

Board of Directors, Emerge Wisconsin

UMOS Community Service Block Grant  
Advisory Committee

## Marina in our Community

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2012 Budget Update: Finding a Balanced Approach

## Legislative Update

Photo ID Required for 2012 February Spring Primary

Marina Introduces "STEPUp" Employee Wellness Program

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MCTS Announces Steady Increase in Bike Rack Usage

WisDOT Announces Feasibility Study on Hoan Bridge Bike Path

## Save the Date

WisDOT Public Meeting on Hoan Bridge Bike Path

LBWN Annual Gathering

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# Marina in our Community

## Town Hall Meeting on Proposed MCTS Express Routes

Milwaukee County Supervisors Marina Dimitrijevic, Patricia Jursik and Jason Haas hosted a public, informational session regarding the proposed express bus service included in the County Executive's 2012 Recommended Budget on October 24, 2011 at the Bay View Library.

The proposed Express Route 15 would impact Milwaukee's south side, other south and north shore communities, and General Mitchell International Airport. The proposal also includes changes to the current Route 15.

For more information regarding the proposed express routes, please click [here](#) to view the MCTS website.



## 2012 Budget Update

Since Supervisor Dimitrijevic was first elected to the County Board in 2004, it seems that every budget in Milwaukee County gets even more challenging. For 2012, State aid to Milwaukee County falls by \$28 million. Difficult decisions are necessary to fill a budget gap of more than \$50 million. There are few good options to fill this hole.

### County Executive's 2012 Recommended Budget:

- 38% fare increase for paratransit, which serves individuals with disabilities.
- Reduced support for the Sheriff's Department by \$14 million and eliminated the \$3 million subsidy to municipalities for paramedics.
- Cut \$3 million in parks funding; 15% cut in arts and culture.
- 125% increase, or \$25 million more, in what County employees pay for their health care costs.

### Good news in the County Executive's budget proposal:

- Maintain most current bus service; create four new express routes.
- \$3 million for mental health transition to a community-based model.
- Include full-time Sustainability Director to implement the Green Print.

Thank you to the hundreds of constituents who returned surveys to the office.

**More than 74% of the responses our office received favor a modest tax increase to preserve safety net and quality of life services in Milwaukee County.** Your input helps the Supervisor make the best decisions on your behalf as we move through the budget process.

## Photo ID Required for 2012 Primary

**Q: Does the address on the ID need to be current and match the address on the voter list?**

**A:** No. However, if the address listed on your photo ID is no longer current, remember to provide proof of residency as well.

**Q: Are mail-in absentee voters required to provide photo identification?**

**A:** Yes. All mail-in absentee voters will be required to send a photo copy of photo ID with their request for an absentee ballot, unless they request the ballot by fax or e-mail, in which case they must submit the photo copy of their photo ID with the absentee ballot itself. This requirement takes effect with the February 2012 Primary.

**Q: What is the cost of IDs for voters?**

**A:** The Wisconsin Department of Transportation will waive the \$28 fee and provide FREE ID cards to any individual who will be at least 18 years of age on the date of the next election, if they specifically state the ID is for voting purposes. This is true for voters applying for new, renewed or reinstated IDs. So, be sure to check the box on your application form stating the ID is for voting purposes, and also let the attendant know when you get to the counter.

### Acceptable forms of Photo ID

An acceptable photo ID is **NOT** required to contain a current address.

- A Wisconsin DOT-issued driver license, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended.
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued Identification Card.
- A U.S. Military ID card.
- A U.S. Passport.

**NOTE:** Identifications above must have an expiration date after the November 2, 2010 election.

- A certificate of naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of an election at which it is presented.
- An unexpired driving receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT.
- An unexpired identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin.
- An unexpired identification card issued by a Wisconsin-accredited university or college that contains the following:
  - Date of issuance.
  - Signature of student.
  - Expiration date not later than 2 years after date of issuance.

## Marina Introduces “STEPUp” Employee Wellness Program

Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic introduced an employee wellness plan called S.T.E.P. Up (Stronger Team through Employee Participation) aimed at encouraging employees to pursue healthier lifestyle choices while lowering health care costs. The plan was presented to the Finance & Audit Committee as an amendment to the 2012 Budget. Similar initiatives are already used by local public and private sector employers, including the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee Public Schools, Northwestern Mutual and Quad/Graphics.

“Under my STEP Up model, a small investment now can pay large dividends in the future. Considering the budget challenges we face this year, the time is now to reverse the trend of rising health care costs. This will be a team effort,” Supervisor Dimitrijevic said. “The City of Milwaukee has achieved a 90% participation rate in their wellness program. We hope to achieve similar participation in Milwaukee County.”

In the typical wellness structure, employees participate in an annual screening and develop a plan to help them stay or get healthy. For example, depending on which risks are identified, participants could be referred to a smoking cessation program, be given a diet/exercise program, or be advised to see a doctor.

Health care costs are driven by a handful of diseases including hypertension, diabetes and heart disease that can be managed or prevented. But the required lifestyle adjustments are easy to put off, especially if the problem isn't detected.



“Wellness programs give employees an enhanced opportunity to take control of their future,” Supervisor Dimitrijevic added. “I am confident that, when given a chance, Milwaukee County employees will STEP Up to the challenge.”

According to the American Journal of Health Promotion, every \$1 invested in wellness results in \$3.50 in savings through lower health care costs. The Journal found that absenteeism from illness decreases by 27%, health care costs fall 26% and workers comp and disability claims decrease by 32%.



# Recently in Milwaukee County

## Green Print Update

The County Board's Parks, Energy & Environment Committee received an update last week on the energy savings and environmentally-friendly upgrades made possible by the "Green Print" legislation, which was authored by Supervisor Dimitrijevic and unanimously adopted by the County Board.

"Thank you to my colleagues for their continued support of the Green Print. These improvements are saving tax dollars and reducing operating costs at a number of County facilities," said Supervisor Dimitrijevic.

The report highlighted recent improvements, including:

**General Mitchell International Airport** - High efficiency lighting, Purchased two more Compressed Natural Gas-fueled shuttle buses (on pace to save \$90,000 per year in fuel costs). Incorporating LEED standards as part of Mitchell International's Baggage Claim project, including natural lighting, high-efficiency light fixtures, water-conserving restroom fixtures, green roof, water-efficient landscaping, and recycled construction materials, while recycling demolition waste.

**Milwaukee Public Museum** – installation of a modular green roof.

**Milwaukee County Zoo** - High-tech skylights installed at Primate House.

**Mitchell Park Domes** - New sustainable features in Green Entry Landscaping project (replaced reflective pools with planting beds and diverting rainwater collected from the rooftops of the domes for irrigation).

**Milwaukee County Sports Complex** - Pervious pavement installed at the parking lot

**Washington Park Senior Center** - Installation of solar hot water system



Since 2008, Milwaukee County has received over \$600,000 in grants and Federal Stimulus funds to implement portions of our Green Print, which will lead to even more opportunities to reduce our environmental footprint, save tax dollars and preserve assets for future generations.

"These savings show that, by going green, we can save green," Supervisor Dimitrijevic added. "We have already achieved nearly \$10 million in energy savings upgrades to Milwaukee County's infrastructure."

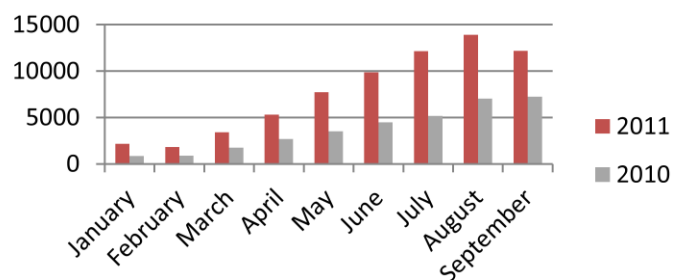
# Recently in Milwaukee County

## MCTS Announces Steady Increase in Bike Rack Usage

The Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) has seen a 104% increase in bike rack usage in 2011 compared to 2010. In August 2011 alone, MCTS reached a monthly high with a total of bikes on board of 13,920. (Please note: under recording is estimated to be up to 15%.)

By the end of 2011 it is anticipated that bike boardings will be near 100,000, doubling the 2010 total of 47,995. As of September 30, the total bike rack usage for 2011 was 68,541, compared to 33,615 last year.

**MCTS Bikes on Buses Monthly Totals**

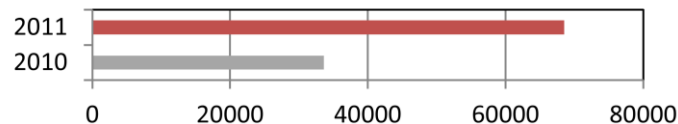


Everyone deserves the opportunity of public transportation, an affordable and convenient alternative to driving. According to company spokesperson Jacqueline Janz, "By expanding the area around our bus stops to biking distance, it now increases MCTS's service area to a higher percentage of county residents." MCTS bus stops are within walking distance for 85 percent of county residents, and 99 percent of county residents are within biking distance.

Since launching Bikes on Buses on all fixed route service in August of 2009, MCTS has seen a steady increase in riders that take advantage of bringing their bike along for the ride. Due to the mild weather this fall, we expect usage for October and possibly November to remain high.



**MCTS Bikes on Buses September Totals**



In 2011, the most popular routes for bike boardings so far are Route 15 (Oakland-Kinnickinnic) with 9,252 boardings; Route 10 (Humboldt-Wisconsin) with 4,726 boardings; and Route 18 (National Avenue) with 4,185 boardings.

With Bikes on Buses, MCTS is able to give customers a public transportation option that promotes a more sustainable and healthier lifestyle. Bike racks make it even easier for MCTS passengers to leave their car at home for their workday commute, head out to explore Milwaukee County Parks and bike trails, or enjoy a bike ride on their lunch break.

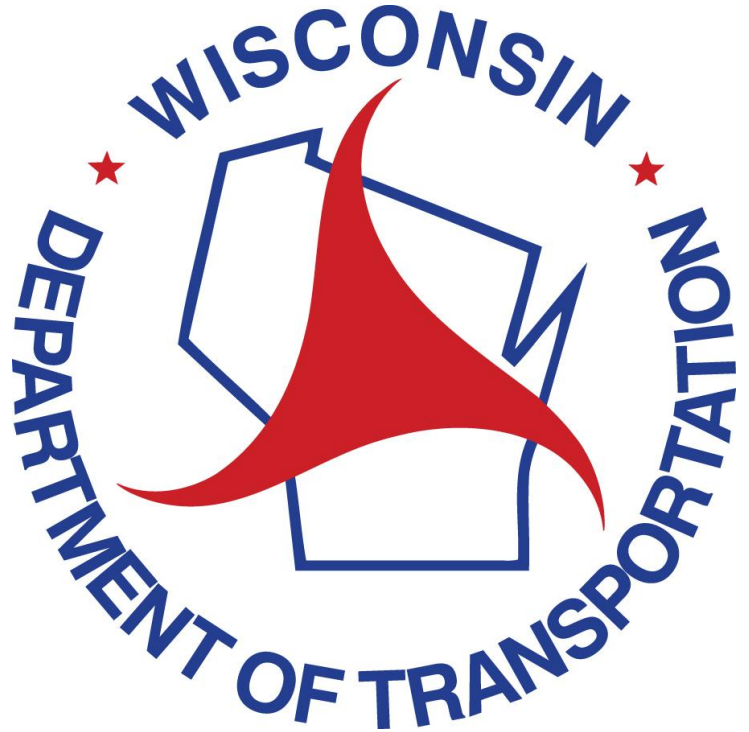
The Milwaukee County Transit System is a vital service to the community, connecting 40 million riders each year with jobs, schools, shopping, healthcare and recreation in Milwaukee County.

## WisDOT Announces Feasibility Study Results for Hoan Bridge

In accordance with policy set forth by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as well as state laws and policies, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is evaluating the feasibility of adding a shared-use path to the Daniel Hoan Bridge (Hoan Bridge) as part of the rehabilitation project expected to begin in 2013.

Though the project currently does not include the addition of a shared-use path to the bridge, certain guidelines recommend investigating the feasibility of adding a shared-use path to projects involving a bridge re-deck.

The study includes an evaluation of the feasibility of integrating a shared-use path along the Hoan Bridge. WisDOT standards require that the shared-use path on a high-speed facility be separated by a barrier. In addition, the study also considers safe access and network connectivity to trails. A review of existing facilities indicates that a new shared-use path would have logical connection points to Milwaukee trail facilities and municipal streets at the north and south ends of the bridge.



WisDOT has examined several methods of integrating a shared-use path on the Hoan Bridge, and determined 5 alternatives to be feasible. For more information on the feasibility study, including the alternatives, view the executive summary click [HERE](#).

## WisDOT Announces Feasibility Study Results for Hoan Bridge

WisDOT has scheduled a public meeting:

November 14th, 2011 from 5-7 p.m.

WisDOT downtown office building

1001 West St. Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, WI

WisDOT will review the draft feasibility study report of installing a shared-use path on the Hoan Bridge.

For more information click [HERE](#).

## LBWN Annual Gathering

Mark your calendars for November 3rd because we will have a lot going on. Thanks to the generous support of the Zilber Family Foundation, for the past year we have been working with everyone in the neighborhood on the development of a Quality of Life plan. All the hard work has paid off and on this date we will be unveiling the plan. Come see the plan for how to make our neighborhood even better over the next few years.

We will also be awarding the winners of our "Most Improved Porch Contest". Many neighbors have been hard at work making the faces of their home shine. See who did what and find out who will take home the top prize.

In addition, we will have food from neighborhood restaurants, resources for homeowners, families, and everyone in the neighborhood.

Join us to celebrate another great year in the Layton Boulevard West neighborhood!

Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 6:30pm-8:30-pm  
1501 South Layton Boulevard (St. Joseph's Center)